

Message Text

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TOSEC 553 FOR S/S

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OVIP (HENRY A KISSINGER), MBFR,

SUBJECT: MBFR: DISCUSSIONS WITH ROMANIAN, ITALIAN

-- AND YUGOSLAV OFFICIALS

1. FOLLOWING IS ADDITIONAL BACKGROUND MATERIAL AND TALK-
ING POINTS FOR POSSIBLE USE BY SECRETARY IF HOST GOVERN-
MENT OFFICIALS RAISE MBFR. FOLLOWING MATERIAL COVERS NEW
DEVELOPMENTS SINCE ORIGINAL BRIEFING PAPERS WERE PRE-
PARED.

2. BACKGROUND. DURING OCTOBER 15 INFORMAL MEETING IN
VIENNA AND OCTOBER 31 PLENARY, EAST FORMALLY PRESENTED
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QUOTE INITIAL STEP UNQUOTE PROPOSAL EMBODYING MOST BUT

NOT ALL OF ELEMENTS PROVIDED EARLIER IN SERIES OF HINTS.
EASTERN PROPOSAL IS AS FOLLOWS:

--TO CARRY OUT DURING THE YEAR 1974 REDUCTIONS OF ARMED FORCES OF THE WESTERN COUNTRIES (U.S., ENGLAND, FRG, BELGIUM, NETHERLANDS, LUXEMBOURG, CANADA) AND THE SOCIALIST COUNTRIES (USSR, POLAND, CZECHOSLOVAKIA, GDR) BY AN OVERALL NUMBER OF 20,000 MEN ON EACH SIDE WITH CORRESPONDING ARMAMENTS AND COMBAT EQUIPMENT.

--IN ADDITION THE ARMED FORCES OF THE US AND THE USSR

THE FRG AND POLAND - BY FIVE THOUSAND MEN, AND THE REMAINING FIVE THOUSAND FROM EACH SIDE WOULD BE DISTRIBUTED AMONG THE REMAINING STATES.

--DURING 1975, THE REDUCTION OF TROOPS WOULD BE UNDERTAKEN IN THE FOLLOWING MANNER: THOSE OF THE USSR AND THE US DURING THE FIRST HALF OF THE YEAR, AND THE REMAINING COUNTRIES IN THE SECOND HALF YEAR.

--THE REDUCTIONS PROPOSED FOR 1975 COULD BE GIVEN THE SHAPE OF AN INITIAL STEP BY A SEPARATE AGREEMENT WHICH WOULD PROVIDE FOR AN OBLIGATION BY ALL DIRECT PARTICIPANTS TO CONTINUE NEGOTIATIONS ON A FURTHER, MORE SUBSTANTIAL REDUCTION OF ARMED FORCES AND ARMAMENTS IN CENTRAL EUROPE.

--WE WOULD LIKE TO STRESS THAT THIS PROPOSAL OF THE SOCIALIST STATES, AS WELL AS THE AGREEMENT WORKED OUT ON THE BASIS OF IT, MUST NOT INFRINGE ON THE POSITIONS OF PRINCIPLE OF BOTH SIDES IN THE NEGOTIATIONS NOR CREATE A PRECEDENT FOR FUTURE, MORE FAR-REACHING REDUCTIONS.

3. POLISH DELOFF LEAKED ABOVE PROPOSAL TO PRESS OCTOBER 31 (ANNIVERSARY OF BEGINNING OF MBFR NEGOTIATIONS). UPI REPORT, BASED ON LEAK, GAVE IMPRESSION THAT EAST HAS COME OVER TO ALLIED TWO PHASE PROPOSAL. IF ROMANIANS AND YUGOSLAVS RAISE SUBJECT, YOU MAY WISH TO MAKE POINTS BELOW WHICH ARE PART OF AGREED LINE ALLIES WILL TAKE IN CONFIDENTIAL

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VIENNA. IF ITALIANS RAISE QUESTION, YOU MAY WISH TO SAY WE ARE ADHERING TO AGREED ALLIED APPROACH IN DISCUSSIONS WITH PRESS AND EASTERN REPS.

--THE PROPOSAL CONTINUES TO HAVE THE SAME SERIOUS DEFICIENCIES AS THE ORIGINAL EASTERN PROPOSAL OF NOVEMBER 1973.

--THE PROPOSAL COMPLETELY IGNORES THE KEY ELEMENT OF THE SECURITY SITUATION IN CENTRAL EUROPE: A VERY LARGE DISPARITY IN GROUND FORCE MANPOWER AND MAIN BATTLE TANKS, A DISPARITY INTENSIFIED BY THE FACT THAT THE MAIN MILITARY POWER ON THE WESTERN SIDE IS FAR DISTANT WHEREAS THE MAIN MILITARY POWER ON THE WARSAW PACT IS IMMEDIATELY ADJACENT.

--THE AMOUNT OF REDUCTIONS IS THE SAME AS THOSE IN THE FIRST STAGE REDUCTION CONTAINED IN THE NOVEMBER 1973 EASTERN PROPOSAL;

--THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE REDUCTIONS PROPOSED FOR BOTH SIDES IS THE SAME AS THOSE IN THE NOVEMBER 1973 PROPOSAL, THAT IS TO SAY THE PROPOSED REDUCTIONS ARE SYMMETRICAL AND DO NOT TAKE INTO ACCOUNT THE DISPARITIES IN THE AREA;

--AS REGARDS THE FORCES TO BE AFFECTED, THEY ARE THE SAME AS THOSE IN THE NOVEMBER 1973 PROPOSAL AND DO NOT FOCUS ON THE DISPARITY IN GROUND FORCES;

--THE PATTERN OF PARTICIPATION IS THE SAME AS THE ONE PROPOSED IN THE EASTERN NOVEMBER 1973 PROPOSAL. THE EAST IS STILL INSISTING THAT ALL WESTERN DIRECT PARTICIPANTS MUST COMMIT THEMSELVES ON NUMBER AND TIMING OF REDUCTIONS BEFORE ANY REDUCTIONS CAN TAKE PLACE. INGERSOLL

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